AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) A compound 8 to 50 nucleobases in length targeted to a nucleic acid molecule encoding human interleukin 8 (SEQ ID NO:3), wherein said compound specifically hybridizes with nucleotides 1 through 118, 150 through 249, 280 through 350, or 391 through 1639 of said nucleic acid molecule encoding human interleukin 8 and inhibits the expression of human interleukin 8.

2. (Original) The compound of claim 1 which is an antisense oligonucleotide.

3. (Cancelled).

4. (Original) The compound of claim 2 wherein the antisense oligonucleotide comprises at least one modified internucleoside linkage.

5. (Original) The compound of claim 4 wherein the modified internucleoside linkage is a phosphorothioate linkage.

6. (Original) The compound of claim 2 wherein the antisense oligonucleotide comprises at least one modified sugar moiety.

7. (Original) The compound of claim 6 wherein the modified sugar moiety is a 2'-O-methoxyethyl sugar moiety.

8. (Original) The compound of claim 2 wherein the antisense oligonucleotide comprises at least one modified nucleobase.

9. (Original) The compound of claim 8, wherein the modified nucleobase is a 5-methylcytosine.

10. (Original) A compound of claim 2 wherein the antisense oligonucleotide is a chimeric oligonucleotide.

11. (Currently amended) A compound 8 to 50 nucleobases in length which specifically hybridizes with at least an 8-nucleobase portion of an active site on a nucleic acid molecule encoding human interleukin 8 (SEQ ID NO:3), wherein said compound specifically hybridizes with nucleotides 1 through 118, 150 through 249, 280 through 350, or 391 through 1639 of said nucleic acid molecule encoding human interleukin 8.

12. (Original) A composition comprising the compound of claim 1 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.

13. (Original) The composition of claim 12 further comprising a colloidal dispersion system.

14. (Original) The composition of claim 12 wherein the compound is an antisense oligonucleotide.

15. (Original) A method of inhibiting the expression of interleukin 8 in cells or tissues comprising contacting said cells or tissues with the compound of claim 1 so that expression of interleukin 8 is inhibited.

16. (Original) A method of treating an animal having a disease or condition associated with interleukin 8 comprising administering to said animal a therapeutically or prophylacticaly effective amount of the compound of claim 1 so that expression of interleukin 8 is inhibited.

17. (Original) The method of claim 16 wherein the disease or condition is a hyperproliferative disease.

18. (Original) The method of claim 17 wherein the hyperproliferative disease is cancer.

19. (Original) The method of claim 18 wherein the cancer is melanoma, leukemia or lymphoma.

20. (Original) The method of claim 16 wherein the disease or condition is an autoimmune disorder.

21. (Reinstated-formerly claim no. 3) The compound of claim 2 wherein the antisense oligonucleotide has a sequence comprising SEQ ID NO: 11, 12, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 24, 25, 26, 28, 31, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 52, 53, 54, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 63, 64, 65, 66, 69, 72, 73, 77, 78, 79, 80, 86, or 88.

22. (New) The compound of claim 1 wherein said compound specifically hybridizes with a region is selected from the group consisting of a 5'-UTR, a 3'-UTR, a start codon region, nucleotides 391 through 427 of a stop codon region, and nucleotides 98 through 118, 150 through 249, 280 through 350, and 428 through 1639 of a coding region.

23. (New) The compound of claim 22 wherein the region is the 5'-UTR.

24. (New) The compound of claim 22 wherein the region is the 3'-UTR.

25. (New) The compound of claim 22 wherein the region is the start codon region.

26. (New) The compound of claim 22 wherein the region is nucleotides 391 through 427 of the stop codon region.

27. (New) The compound of claim 22 wherein the region is nucleotides 98 through 118, 150 through 249, 280 through 350, and 428 through 1639 of the coding region.